

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A lighting system, comprising:

an illumination device adapted to direct light toward a area to be illuminated;

5 a light source located remotely from the illumination device and adapted to generate the light; and

a light guide adapted to channel the light generated from the light source to the illumination device, wherein the light guide is further adapted to be a structural component of the system for supporting the illumination device.

10 2. The system of Claim 1, wherein the light guide comprises a street lamp post.

3. The system of Claim 1, wherein the light source is adapted to be located remotely from the light guide.

4. The system of Claim 1, wherein the light source is adapted to be located within a base adapted to support the light guide.

15 5. The system of Claim 1, wherein the light source comprises at least one laser engine.

6. The system of Claim 1, wherein the light source comprises at least one light bulb.

20 7. The system of Claim 1, wherein the light source comprises at least one light emitting diode (LED).

8. The system of Claim 1, wherein the system further comprises a plurality of light guides, each having an associated illumination

device, wherein the light source is adapted to generate light channeled by each light guide to the respective associated illumination devices.

5        9.        The system of Claim 1, wherein the light guide comprises a hollow structure having a reflective coating covering an inside surface of the structure.

10.        The system of Claim 1, wherein the light guide comprises a hollow structure having at least one optical fiber extending longitudinally within a hollow portion of the structure.

10        11.        The system of Claim 1, wherein the light guide comprises a hollow structure having a liquid waveguide core.

12.        The system of Claim 1, wherein the system further comprises an arm extending from a distal end of the light guide, the arm adapted to channel light from the light guide to the illumination device connected the arm.

13. A method for illuminating a large area using a large overhead lighting system, said method comprising:

generating light using a light source adapted to be easily accessible by a person standing on the ground;

5 channeling the light to an illumination device located remotely from the light source in a location that is substantially difficult to access by a person standing on the ground, using a light guide adapted to be a structural component of the lighting system; and

10 directing the light toward an area to be illuminated using the illumination device.

14. The method of Claim 13, wherein channeling the light comprises utilizing a street lamp post as the light guide.

15. The method of Claim 13, wherein generating light comprises locating the light source remotely from the light guide.

15 16. The method of Claim 13, wherein generating light comprises locating the light source in a base adapted to support the light guide.

17. The method of Claim 13, wherein generating light comprises generating light signals using at least one laser engine.

20 18. The method of Claim 13, wherein generating light comprises illuminating at least one light bulb.

19. The method of Claim 13, wherein generating light comprises activating at least one light emitting diode (LED).

20 The method of Claim 13, wherein the method further comprises channeling the light to a plurality of illumination devices located

remotely from the light source in locations substantially difficult to access by a person standing on the ground, using a plurality of associated light guides.

21. The method of Claim 13, wherein the light guide comprises a hollow structure and channeling the light comprises covering an inside surface  
5 of the hollow structure with a reflective coating.

22. The method of Claim 13, wherein the light guide comprises a hollow structure and channeling the light comprises longitudinally extending at least one optic fiber within a hollow portion of the hollow structure.

23. The method of Claim 13, wherein the light guide comprises  
10 a hollow structure and channeling the light comprises providing a liquid waveguide core within a hollow portion of the hollow structure.

24. A street lamp, comprising:

a light source adapted to generate light and to be easily accessible by a person standing on the ground;

5 a lamp post adapted to be a light guide for channeling the light generated by the light source, and

a luminaire positioned remotely from the light source and adjacent a distal end of the lamp post, the luminaire adapted to redirect the light channeled through the lamp post.

10 25. The street lamp of Claim 24, wherein the light source is adapted to be located remotely from the lamp post.

26. The street lamp of Claim 24, wherein the light source is adapted to be located within a base adapted to support the lamp post.

15 27. The street lamp of Claim 24, wherein the light source comprises at least one of a laser engine, a light bulb and a light emitting diode (LED).

28 The street lamp of Claim 24, wherein the lamp post comprises a hollow structure having a reflective coating covering an inside surface of the post.

20 29. The street lamp of Claim 24, wherein the lamp post comprises a hollow structure having at least one optical fiber extending longitudinally within a hollow portion of the structure.

30. The street lamp of Claim 24, wherein the lamp post comprises a hollow structure having a liquid waveguide core.

31. The street lamp of Claim 24, wherein the system further comprises an arm extending from the distal end of the lamp post, the arm adapted to channel light from the channeled by the lamp post to the illumination device connected the arm.

5                    32. The street lamp of Claim 24 wherein the luminaire redirects the light channeled through the lamp post via total internal reflection (TIR).

33. A lamp system comprising:

at least one light source adapted to generate the optical signals and be easily accessible by person standing on the ground; and

5 at least one lamp post optically coupled to the light source, the lamp post adapted to channel the optical signals;

at least one luminaire supported by the lamp in a location substantially difficult to access by a person standing on the ground, wherein the luminaire is adapted to receive the optical signals channeled by the lamp post and direct optical signals toward an area to be illuminated.

10 34. The lamp system of Claim 33, wherein the light source is adapted to be located remotely from the lamp post.

35. The lamp system of Claim 33, wherein the light source is adapted to be located within a base adapted to support one lamp post.

15 36. The lamp system of Claim 33, wherein the lamp post comprises a hollow structure having a reflective coating covering an inside surface of the post.

37. The street lamp of Claim 33, wherein the lamp post comprises a hollow structure having at least one optical fiber extending longitudinally within a hollow portion of the structure.

20 38. The street lamp of Claim 33, wherein the lamp post comprises a hollow structure having a liquid waveguide core.